

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election without balancing with an equally bias anti-Bush documantary is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Our media must present both sides of the isssues so the public can make informed decisions. And the documentary should be based on facts - if it represents opinion it should be labeled as editorial.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get less of what we need for our democracy. We get hype -not facts and sometimes complete fiction presented as if it is fact. We get PR manipulation. It's more important that we the people, get more substantive news about issues that matter. This is what a democracy needs to make an informed decision about how to proceed forward.

Sinclair's actions show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. And why we should never allow monopoly ownership of the media. Thank you.